MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

OF THE

Disciples of Christ

HELD WITH

Vine Swamp Church, Lenoir County, N. C.

OCTOBER 21, 22, 23, 24, 1886

Elder L. Raynor,	- -	Moderator
Elder R. E. Green,	- -	Asst. Moderator
Bro. G. R. Richardson,	- -	Clerk
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SECOND DAY—Friday, October 22.

The Conference reassembled at 9 o'clock a. m. Singing on page 340, hymn 560. After which Bro. W. Dayal addressed the throne of grace, and such a happy time we had. On motion of Bro. W. Dayal the proceedings of yesterday were read andadopted. On motion of Bro. Dayal it was resolved that no delegate be allowed to speak but twice on the same subject.

On motion of W. Dayal the bell was ordered to be rung at 11 o'clock each day during the session of Conference. On motion of Bro. A. Lovick, Jr., it was resolved that no local minister shall be heard as a delegate in this Conference.

On motion of Bro. Ned Lofton' the Conference adjourned until half past two o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Elder A. H. Hargett called the Conference to order with singing praise to God,fter which the Moderator addressed the throne of grace, and afterwards pronounced the house in order for business. The Moderator appointed the following committees, viz: Ned Lofton, Handy Cook and Alexander Williams, on finance.

The Moderator appointed a committee of three, viz. Elder A. Hargett, Elder A. L. Lovick, Sr., and Elder James Darden on ministerial affairs.

On motion of Bro. H. Williams it was resolved that no brother shall be allowed to be on a committee for the purpose of trying cases wherein they are interested. On motion of Bro. W. Dyall it was resolved that Elder Darden shall be our presiding Elder for the incoming year, and he is to visit each church once a year. On motion of Bro. Alfred Lovick Jr., Hickory Grove was received as a congregation. On motion of Bro. Alfred Lovick the name of Missionary Point shall be erased from the face of the minutes and hereafter called a congregation.

The committee on preaching reported Bro. John A. Henry to fill the pulpit on Friday at 3 o'clock p. m. He preached from the 1st chapter of St. Mark and the 15th verse, "And saying, the time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand." Brother Wilson preached from the 5th chapter and 15th verse of St. Mk: "And they came to Jesus , and saw him that was possessed of the devil." Bro. Noah Williams, also preached , from the 25th chapter of Matthew and 46th verse: "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal."

The committee on preaching reported Elder T. Davis to preach tonight at 7 o'clock, and followed by Elder A. H. Hargett and Brother G. W. Lovick to fill the pulpit Saturday morning at 11: o'clock, and followed by Bro. Moses Anderson.

THIRD DAY—Saturday October 23.

The Conference reassembled at 9 o'clock a. m. Rev. R. E. Green, Assistant Moderator, gave a short lecture in regard to our faith and order, after which the Conference was opened by singing praise to God. Elder Raynor, first Moderator addresed the throne of grace, after which he pronounced the Conference ready for business.

On motion of E. M. Cox the proceedings of yesterday were read and adopted.

On motion of Bro. W. Dayal a vote of thanks was tendered Elders Alfred Lovick, Sr., Demas Hargett, and Allen Chesnut as being the founders of the Colored Disciples, October 22, A. D., 1872. On motion of Bro. Alfred Lovick the words local expense were erased from the minutes. On motion of Bro. Alfred Lovick, Jr., the committe on finance reported: Found in the treasury, $3.60; collected during the conference $24.10; total $27.70.

O motion of Bro. B. J. Westbrook it was resolved that all ministers shall be ordained before they can receive local license.

On motion of Bro. Dayal, the Conference adjourned until 2: o'clock. Singing on page 340, hymn 566, after which the Asst. Moderator addressed the throne of grace and the meeting closed.

Afternoon Session

The Conference met according to adjournment, and was opened with singing by the Moderator on page 221, hymn 382.

On motion of Bro. Alfred Lovick, Jr., $2 was taken from the treasury to repay Bro. Peter Grady for money which he used in the distribution to the churches the minutes of 1885 A. D.

ROLL OF ELDERS

Elder E. D. Hill
Elder A. J. Lovick
EElder N. P. Hargett
Elder L. Raynor
Elder Isam Darden
Elder Ben Gregory
Elder Samuel Hood
Elder A. H. Hargett
Elder T. Davies
Elder C. C. Cutler
Elder G. W. Lovick
Elder H. Jones
Elder H. McDonald
Elder C. C. Outlaw
Elder James Darden

ROLL OF LOCAL MINISTERS

Brother Samuel Foster, Kinston, N. C.
Brother J. F. Kinsey, Kinston, N. C.
Brother M. Anderson, Kinston, N. C.
Brother James Chance, Kinston, N. C.
Brother Taylor Wilson, Princeton, N. C.
Brother Samuel Faison, Princeton, N. C.
Brother Haywood Bowden, Giddensville, N. C.
Brother J. A. Henry, Newton Grove, N. C.
Brother Noah Williams, Kinston, N. C.

On motion of Bro. W. Dayal it was resolved that a collection be taken up at all proper times during the conference.

On motion of Bro. Alfred Lovick, Jr., it was resolved that the Eastern Conference and the Western Conference shall hereafter be known as one united body of Christ's Disciples, this 23rd day of October, 1886.

The committee on ministerial affairs reported that Brother Daniel Harring shall be silenced for twelve months.

On motion of Bro. W. Dayal it was resolved that our next Confcerence shall be held at St. Mary's Church in Hyde county, Lake Comfort.

On motion of Bro. Evans Lee it was resolved that 400 minutes be printed and distributed to the churches.

On motion of Bro. W. Dayal it was resolved that Bro. E. D. Hill be appointed to preach the introductory sermon at St. Mary's Church on Thursday before the fourth Lord's day in Octobef, 1887.

On motion of Bro. Alfred Lovick, Jr., it was resolved that the treasurer settle with the Clerk.

On motion of Bro. Ned Lofton it was resolved that the treasurer pay the Clerks four dollars for their services.

On motion of Bro. E. M. Cox it was resolved that ten dollars be paid to Bro. G. R. Richardson, Clerk to have the minutes printed and distributed to the said churches and two dollars be given him to prepare them for the press.

On motion of Bro. J. B. Body it was resolved that the treasurer pay the Moderators one dollar a piece for their services.

,On motion of Bro. H. Lee it was resolved that the minutes be printed and sent out by the first of March 1887. On motion of Bro. W. Dayal it was resoved that Elder Hargett be made treasurer of this convention. The amount remaining in the treasury is seven dollars and some cents.

The committee on preaching reported Bro. James Chance to fill the pulpit at 4 o'clock p. m. He preached from the 7th chap. and 7th verse of St. Matthew: "Ask and it shall be given you" Followed by Bro. Samuel Faison. He preached from the 5th chap. and 29 verse of St. John, "And shall come forth, they that have done good unto the ressurection of life."

On motion of Bro. Alexander Williams the Conference adjourned, singing hymn 27 page 160, after which the committee on preaching reported that Bro. Samuel Hood would preach at seven o'clock tonight, followed by Elder Raynor, after which the meeting closed until 7 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION

Elder R. E. Green opened by singing on page 318, and reading from the 10th chapter of Matthew, commencing at the first verse, after which he addressed the throne of grace. Then Elder Raynor took the pulpit and preached from the 20th chapter and 1st verse of St John:"The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early when it was yet dark." Followed by Bro. Sam'l Hood, who preached from the 8th chapter and 30th verse of St. John: "As he spake these words many believed on him."

The committee on preaching reported Bro. Robt. Green to fill the pulpit at 11 o'clock, followed by Bro. E. D. Hill .

FOURTH DAY.—October 24, 1886

Conference met according to adjournment. Bro. Neil opened the meeting, and getting ready marched to the pulpit, and there he addressed the throne of grace, after which he sang a few verses and pronounced the meeting in order.

Elder Green came to the front. The congregation felt very grateful and seemed to be very solicitous to hear him. He preached from 1st chapter of James and the 22d verse: "Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only."

Elder Hill followed and preached from the same text. So may God bless the whole world, amen. This closed the Conference of the Disciples of Christ in North Carolina, (No.860068). We feel that we are coming to the front. May God bless us to keep pressing on.

Resolutions offered by Bro. Peter F. Grady to the annual convention of the Disciples of Christ held with the church at Alum Springs, Craven county, N. C.

I offer the following reslutions: That all amendments being in addition to our standing work not be mixed, but to be added to show our improvement. I further offer an amendment that all members caught in ball rooms, or other disorderly places, and that all ministers caught in adultery shall be silenced for twelve months. And furthermore, that all ministers caught intoxicated (or drunk) shall be silenced for six months, and at that expired time, the head minister shall examine him, and if he has been upright and stands well, the head minister, with the deacons of the church to which he belongs shall restore him to full membership again.

That we shall incorporate ourselves to be known as the Eastern and Western North Carolina Disciples of Christ, and that we petition the General Assembly of North Carolina to be incorporated as such.

We humbly thank the brothers and sisters and friends, both white and colored of Vine Swamp and surrounding counties, for their hospitaliity shown us. We shook hands with many of our friends that we never expect to shake again, bidding them a long farewell, for we never expect to meet them again in this life, for we are traveling to the grave, and sooner or later death will commend the body and carry the spirit into judgement before the God who made it. So, good bye sisters and brothers in the Lord.

While we were thus parting, many an eye was bedewed tears and weeping hearts, thinking about the final judgement when we shall meet to part no more. We think we have done our duty so farewell.. Remember us in your prayers, and may God bless us and ever guide us, and in heaven crown us forever more in his kingdom. So once more farewell, until we meet again.

G. R. Richardson,
Secretary.

J. F. Kinsey,
Assistant Secretary.

L. Raynor,
Moderator.

R. E. Green,
Assistant Moderator.